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TOWNSVILLE APPLE GROUP NEWSLETTER

P.O.Box 914, TOWNSVILLE. NORTH QUEENSLAND.4810
Registered by Australia Post Publication No. QBH 4914

Volume 5 Number 6 August 1990 RRP $ 1

1. CLUB MEETINGS.

The Townsville Apple Group (T.A.G.) meets at 7.30 pm on the second Wednesday of each month at Pimlico State High School in J Block. J Block is the block on the right and closest to the road as you face the school. The meeting room is upstairs. At the meeting, there are hardware and software demonstrations, question and answer sessions and informal discussions between members.

NEXT MEETING : 8 TH AUGUST, 1990 AT PIMLICO STATE HIGH SCHOOL

2.NOTES FROM THE LAST CLUB MEETING.

The last meeting held at Pimlico High was well attended with Paul Groth giving a demonstration on his IIGS. The Apple IIGS special interest group did not have a meeting last month. Perhaps Paul, Neil or Chris now that he is back would care to host the next meeting. If so, could they please contact the others to decide on a time or place.

3.COPYRIGHT SOFTWARE

The copying of Copyrighted software is illegal and is not permitted at club meetings.

4. Editorial (by Ed Kulpa)

The aim of this newsletter is to reassure the Apple II people that there is still life in their machine. Currently in the United States, Apple is going through much soul searching (no doubt due to declining profits) and have started to listen to the users groups. People have been appointed to carry the Apple II message. It seems to have finally sunk in that schools are not going to go out and buy expensive MacIntosh's no matter what they say or do. Schools still like Apple II's.

However they also still have to recognize that their machine the IIgs is more than they think it should be. There are many users who are using it in a business sense even though dealers have tried to sell them the more expensive Macintosh. With the new cards available the IIgs can run as aApple II, a Mac (see later note) or as IBM PC. So much for the much maligned Apple II.

Sure there are better machines but for the "tinkers or hackers" there is enough to learn with the Apple II's. The Mac developers are asking the Apple Corp to simplify some of the programming for their new machines as they feel it is getting to be too complex.

LONG LIVE THE APPLE II

I say this every newsletter but it is still true. Don't forget to go to the meetings and meet the rest of the Apple followers as the club is only as strong as its members.

5. Thanks from the Editor.

Thanks to the people who helped with this newsletter specifically Terry Rawlings and Dave Greenland from the Byte Centre. This newsletter is set up with Publish It 2 using imported Appleworks files and then printed .

6. GOSSIP, RUMOURS ETC.

The following has been gleaned from various sources and may or may not be true but is certainly being talked about. Where possible, the source is referenced.

Recently in Sydney, Alan Kay (an Apple Fellow with Apple Computer) spoke of a future where "children as young as three, will gravitate naturally towards computers". He works on a research project where a classroom has 30 MacIntosh's built into special desks where children of primary schools look down on them through a flat plexiglass surface. They use their computers, laser disc and scanners for two to three hours a day. The teachers claim the students are so spellbound that they have to be driven out at recess. They are working on a long term program which will develop a language called Playground to enable t he students to program themselves. He is also known as the man who first coined the phrase "dynabook". This is a computer that you carry around like a book. He first used the phrase some 15 years ago when he worked at Xero Parc. Also working there at the same time were the two young

gentlemen who later went on to found Apple. Apple has a video where they give their impression of dynabook and if you get a chance to see it you should.

Also at the same place was demonstrations by Apple of :-

- a Hypercard stack acessing CD ROM to teach French
- a Hypercard stack accessing Cd Rom for music.
- a Mutltimedia presentation called The Holy Land which looks at the Middle East and the current problems.
- the new Laserprinters was also on display.
- for the GS, there was Playground from Broderbund (not the language mentioned earlier); McGee and Katies' farm and LogoExpress a telecommunications program based on LOGO.

Hackers in the US have an allies in Mitch Kapor (former head of Lotus Development Corporation) and John Barlow (lyricist from the Grateful Dead) who have set up a fighting fund for people who have been charged. Aso involved are two law firms who intend to provide their services free.

Latest rumour says that all new Apple CPU's will have Appletalk capabilities built in. Also there may not need to be a dedicated Mac to run an Appleshare network.

Hypercard 2.0 for the Mac is now out with all the features that have been requested.

"Look and Feel" court cases now have Lotus 1-2-3 taking Borland's Quattro Plus to court.

Apple recently visited some Asian manufacturers who have successfully "reverse engineered" the Mac Roms. Could be, there will soon be low cost Mac clones. In a strange way this may help Apple as one of the factors in IBM's success was that there was a variety of clones.

PC WEEK July 19th, 1990

Apple Computer is being sued by Apple Music because there was an early agreement that the logo Apple could be used as long as it did not cross the boundaries of computers and go into music. Nowadays with MIDI interfaces, synthesizers etc. this is no longer true.

There seems to be a fair bit of agreement that Apple Computers may have a case to answer.

7. CLUB SALES

The club is able to make bulk purchases of disks and other items and can pass these discounts onto you. The following may be purchased at meetings

Pack of ten 5.25 ' disks	$ 10.00
Pack of ten 3.5" disks	$ 25.00
IMAGEWRITER ribbons	
Various cables and plugs.	
Technical knowledge ----------	$ free

We are also able to have ribbons reinked and charge small handling fee.

8. FOR SALE

Free advertisements can be placed with the newsletter by members for computer items that they wish to buy or sell.

Wanted to buy.

One Apple IIGS *card* that has the 256K ram on it. If you are prepared to sell it, please contact Chris Griggs.

9. REVIEWS

Mentioned in the latest trade magazines are the latest add on's available

- A coprocessor card from CIRTECH that will allow the IIgs to run Mac programs. It is suppose to be faster than a IIcx and will be ready December 1990. No price has yet been set.

- Shrinkit an archiving program will now be able to extract files in non apple format e.g. in MSDOS files in the ZOO and ARC format.

- Beagle Boys will soon release Optical Character Recognition software through a company called WESTCODE. The Vitesse scanner mentioned last issue will be able to use it to read in text.

- Apple have put out a Rev C SCSI card which is faster and which is meant to be used with scanners, videos etc.

- Apple IIgs Toolbox Reference volume 3 (#A0299LL/B) is now out and is available from A2 Central or Addison Wesley for $US39.95

- For the software freaks there is a Object Module Manager that allows for very sophisticated programning for $US24.95

10. DISCLAIMER

The Townsville Apple Users Group assumes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy of any informatio supplied or any loss or damage which may result from errors or omissions. The views expressed are the views of the authors and are not necessarily the views of the Townsville Apple Group.

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For Post - town or Area

Post Code (or Group)

TOWNSVILLE APPLE GROUP NEWSLETTER
Registered by Australia Post
Publication No. QBH 4914

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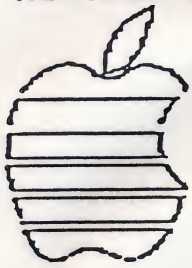

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APPLES B.C. COMPUTER
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INFORMATION

INFORMATION ON AUGUST MEETIN.
Wednesday, 8th August, 1990 at 7:30pm
at Pimlico State High School.

For more information contact Terry on 814480 or 713530.